



North Carolina
LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACCREDITATION

Local Health Department Accreditation: An Update

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Public Health Study Commission

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NC Public Health Department Accreditation Program

- Started at the local level in 2000
- State law passed mandating accreditation in 2005
- State Appropriation to support implementation
- Regulations created by Public Health Commission in 2006



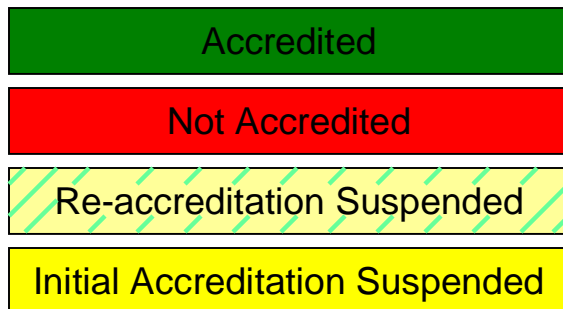
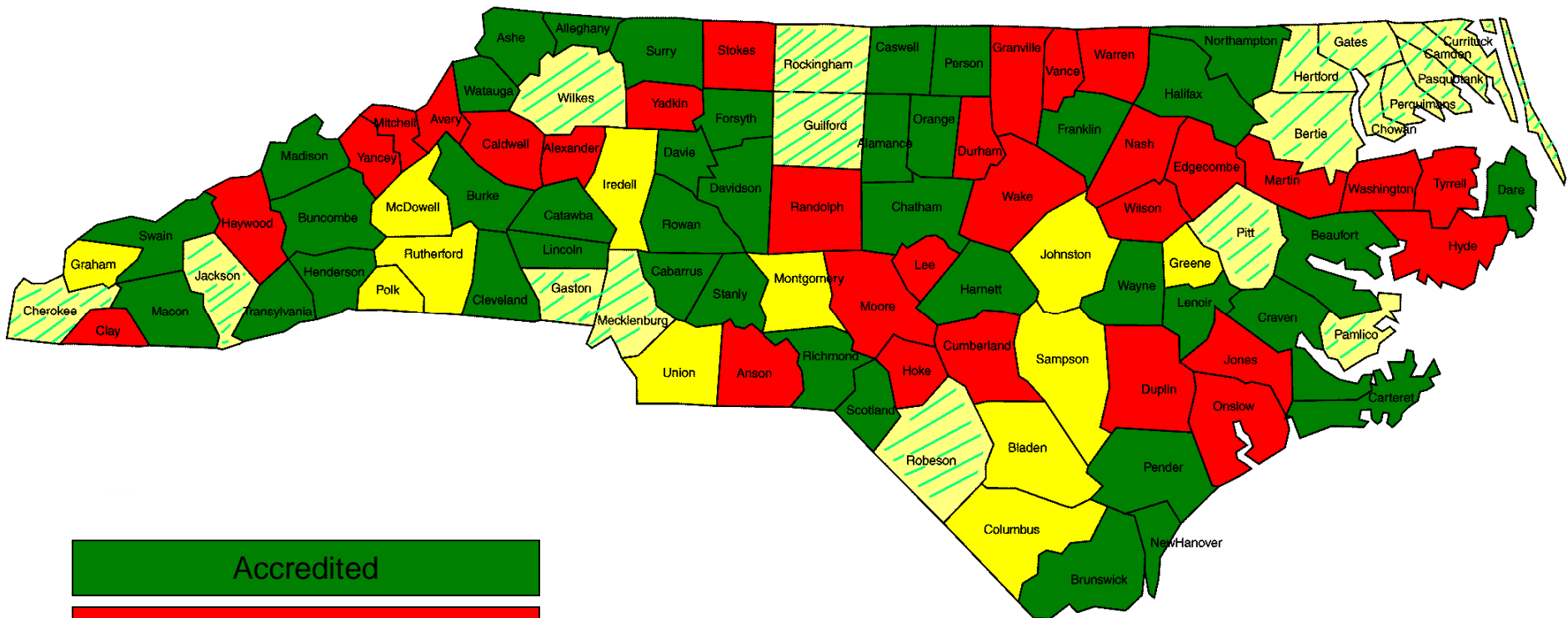
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Research Shows Accreditation Benefits

- Accredited Health Agencies were Better Prepared to respond to H1N1 flu outbreak



A map of North Carolina counties with accreditation status indicated by color. Blue counties are Accredited, and Yellow counties are Non-Accredited.

County	Accreditation Status
Ashe	Accredited
Alleghany	Accredited
Surry	Accredited
Stokes	Accredited
Rockingham	Accredited
Caswell	Accredited
Person	Accredited
Granville	Accredited
Vance	Accredited
Warren	Accredited
Northampton	Accredited
Gates	Accredited
Currituck	Accredited
Samuel	Accredited
Pasquotank	Accredited
Perquimans	Accredited
Chowan	Accredited
Hertford	Accredited
Bertie	Accredited
Martin	Accredited
Washington	Accredited
Tyrrell	Accredited
Dare	Accredited
Hyde	Accredited
Beaufort	Accredited
Carteret	Accredited
Pamlico	Accredited
Craven	Accredited
Lenoir	Accredited
Wayne	Accredited
Greene	Accredited
Pitt	Accredited
Edgecombe	Accredited
Nash	Accredited
Franklin	Accredited
Halifax	Accredited
Wilson	Non-Accredited
Johnston	Non-Accredited
Wake	Non-Accredited
Chatham	Accredited
Durham	Accredited
Orange	Accredited
Alamance	Accredited
Guilford	Accredited
Forsyth	Accredited
Yadkin	Accredited
Wilkes	Accredited
Watauga	Accredited
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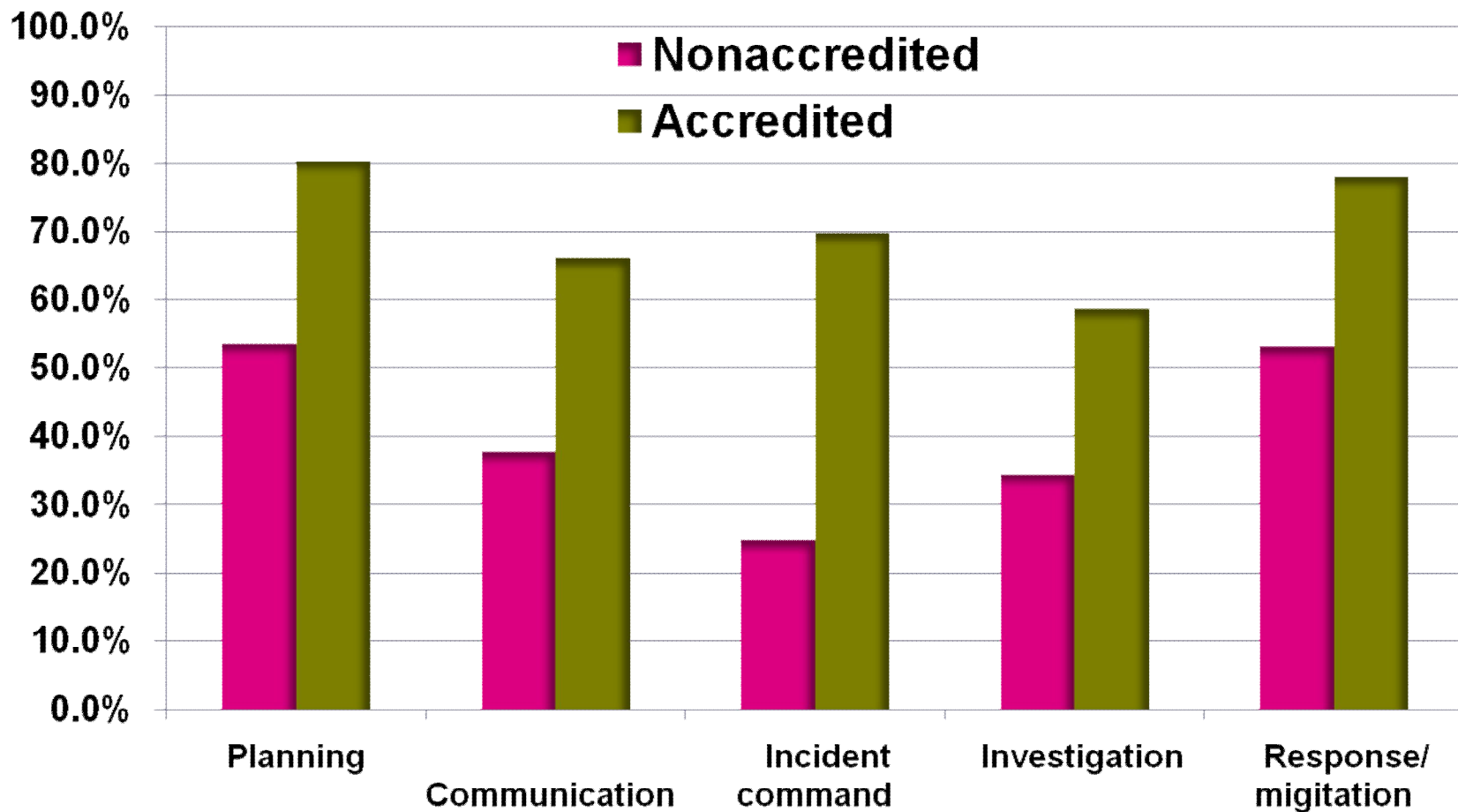


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Accredited Health Departments Responded Faster to H1N1 Flu Outbreak



Accredited Health Departments Performed a Broader Scope of Response Activities in Relation to the H1N1 Flu Outbreak





Other Accreditation Benefits

- Local Health Departments are:
 - Improving Quality of Services
 - Enhancing Local Revenue Generation
- Improved relationships with county commissioners, local hospitals and community partners





Craven County- Quality Improvement

- Reduced clinic registration time
- Increased patient load from less than 60 to over 100
- Increased revenue by more than 30%



Local Health Department Benefits

- Wilkes County
 - Access for previously underserved families by scheduling evening hours for child services
- Dare County
 - Cut wait time for patients by 1 ½ hours and increased staff and patient satisfaction
- Cleveland County
 - \$1+ million for a new building from county





North Carolina LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACCREDITATION

Overall Economic Benefit

- Accreditation increases accountability of LHDs which has raised their profile with county commissioners and boards of health.
- 2 LHDs received increased funding and 6 maintained funding as a result of being accredited.
- 46% of LHDs reported that they received local funds in addition to state funds to prepare for accreditation. Thus LHDs going through accreditation have received or maintained funding, which is sorely needed by locals. This helps people keep jobs and improves what LHDs can provide to their citizens.



Summary of Benefits

- Improved Response to Public Health Emergency
- Improved Clinical Services
- Improved Relationships with the community
- Enhanced revenue generation and new funding for local health departments



Risks of Continued Suspension of Program Operations

- Benefits of accreditation will not continue
 - Enhanced response to Public Health Emergencies
 - Improved Clinic Operations
 - Enhanced Revenue Generation and Funding of Local Health Departments
 - Improved Standing within the Community





Risks of Continued Suspension of Program Operations

- 45 health departments have not participated in accreditation process and therefore, will not experience benefits of accreditation
- **Accredited Health Departments will lose their accreditation status**



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